IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of managing event schedules, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

        initializing a calendar system;

        generating an invitation list;

        sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time to a plurality of users in the invitation list;

        receiving a plurality of acceptance messages associated with [[a]]the first scheduled event having [[a]]the scheduled event time, each of the plurality of acceptance messages associated with a respective user of the plurality of users;

        identifying a schedule conflict of a user associated with an acceptance message of the plurality of acceptance messages[[;]] [[and]], wherein identifying the schedule conflict comprises:

                accessing a schedule store of a data processing system that generated the acceptance message;

        responsive to identifying the schedule conflict, calculating a probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages[[.]];

        displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;

        forming a meeting status value from the calculated probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages ; and

        conveying the meeting status value to at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

2-6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing event schedules, the computer program product comprising:

        first instructions for initializing a calendar system;

        second instructions for generating an invitation list;

        third instructions for sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;

        [[first]]fourth instructions for receiving a plurality of invitation acceptance messages of [[a]]the scheduled event from a plurality of ~~clients~~users;

~~second~~ fifth instructions for interrogating [[a]]the respective calendar system of each of the plurality of ~~clients~~[[;]] [[and]]users, wherein interrogating the respective calendar system of each of the plurality of users includes the event schedule that conflicts with the scheduled event;

[[third]]sixth instructions that ~~calculate~~ calculates a respective probability value of attendance for each of the plurality of ~~clients~~users, wherein at least one probability value is weighted for an identified schedule conflict of a ~~client~~user of the plurality of ~~clients~~[[.]]users;

seventh instructions for displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;

eighth instructions for forming a meeting status value from the probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages; and

ninth instructions for conveying the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

8-14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended) A data processing system for managing an electronic calendar system, comprising:

a memory that contains [[a]]the electronic calendar system as a set of instructions;

a processing unit that generates an invitation list;

the processing unit that sends the invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;

the processing unit that generates a list of users each associated with one of a plurality of acceptance messages;

a network adapter that receives [[a]]the plurality of acceptance messages; [[and]]

[[a]]the processing unit, responsive to execution of the set of instructions, that calculates a respective probability value associated with each of the plurality of acceptance messages and weights a probability value of an associated acceptance message responsive to identification of at least one scheduling conflict[[.]];

a display device that displays a graphical output of the list of users on the display device;

the display device that displays a meeting status value, wherein the meeting status value is visually represented as a color of a plurality of colors each corresponding to a range of the possible meeting status values; and

the processing unit that conveys the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

16-24. (Canceled)